

**UNITED STATES  
CENSUSES OF  
POPULATION  
AND  
HOUSING  
1960**

**PROCESSING  
THE DATA**

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
BUREAU OF THE CENSUS

Reports on methodology of the  
18th Decennial Census which have  
appeared to date:

United States Censuses of Population and Housing, 1960: Principal Data-  
Collection Forms and Procedures. (1961)

Survey of Components of Change and Residential Finance of the United States  
Census of Housing, 1960: Principal Data-Collection Forms and Procedures.  
(1962)

United States Census of Agriculture, 1959, and Related Surveys: Principal  
Data-Collection Forms and Procedures. (1962)

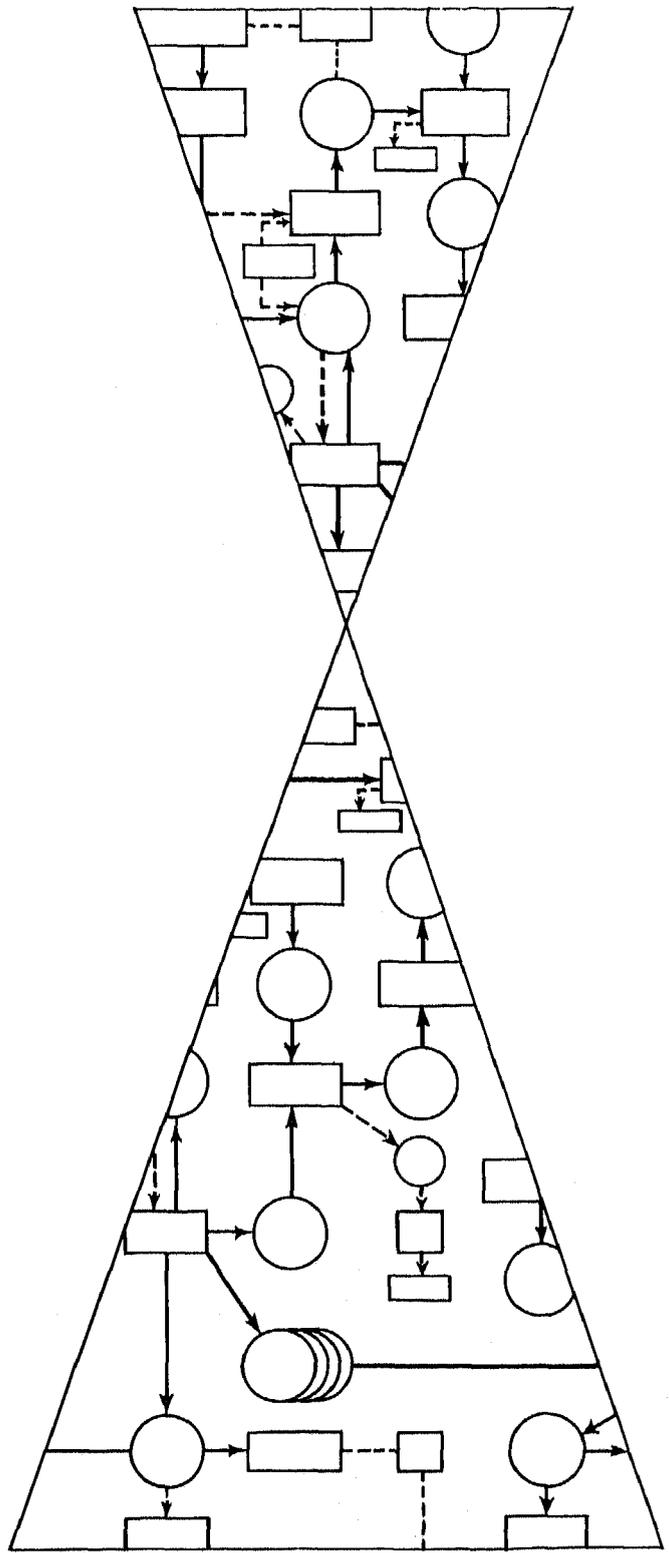
United States Censuses of Population and Housing, 1960: Processing the Data.  
(1962)

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REFERENCE COPY

# UNITED STATES CENSUSES OF POPULATION AND HOUSING 1960

# PROCESSING THE DATA



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
Luther H. Hodges, *Secretary*  
BUREAU OF THE CENSUS  
Richard M. Scammon, *Director (From May 1, 1961)*  
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## PREFACE

The 1960 Censuses of Population and Housing were the first population and housing censuses in the United States for which high-speed electronic equipment was utilized for processing most of the data. Consequently, most of the data-processing procedures, as well as many enumeration procedures and publication procedures, were innovations. The steps in the data processing are described here, from the receipt of the enumeration books containing the information collected by the enumerators, through completion of the tabulations and preparation of the statistical tables.

This report was written as of June 30, 1961, 15 months after the census date, when the processing of the data was well underway (and in fact many of the publications of 1960 census results had already appeared) but before it was completed. The processing of the sample data, in particular, was far from complete in June 1961. The few figures included here on overall costs and time required for the data processing were necessarily based, in part, on estimates.

This is one of a series of reports on the methodology of the Eighteenth Decennial Census. Those which have appeared to date are listed on the inside front cover. It is planned to issue a comprehensive procedural history which will include much of the content of the present report on data processing and also will cover the census planning and preparatory work, the field enumeration, later data-processing work, and the publication program. A detailed report on the data processing in Puerto Rico is to appear as a separate publication. Detailed reports on such specialized aspects of the censuses as quality control, sampling, and the evaluation program are also planned.

This publication was prepared by the staff of the Decennial Operations Division and by Phyllis G. Carter, Census Historian, with contributions by staffs of the Data Processing Systems Division, Population Division, and Housing Division, and with the assistance of the staff of the Statistical Reports Division and many other persons throughout the Bureau of the Census.

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